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copper
Belg/Switz/Poland

Ref: Basel Desp - 8, July 27, 1954
Subject: Sales of Chilean copper to Soviet Bloc

The despatch under reference reported that the "Comptoir Commercial et Industriel du Brabant" (COCIMBRA, 29 Rue de l'Ecuier, Brussels, has contracted to sell 7,500 tons of Chilean copper to [REDACTED] of Zurich, which is eventually to be diverted to Gdynia.

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On August 4, this information was forwarded by the Embassy to the East-West Trade Section of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Commerce. The Embassy has now received a note from the Ministry, dated Oct 14, 1954, which states that an investigation by the Belgian authorities has shown a sizable transit movement through Antwerp of Chilean copper to Poland and to the USSR. "COCIMBRA", this note states, does not appear to be involved in these or other copper shipments.

The substance of the Ministry's note is given below in translation:

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*E/ST Comment: See this document in Switzerland: [REDACTED] case folder.
Brussels D-335, 19 Oct 54; Dist: COM, FOA, TR, OSD, Army, Navy, Air;
Action: E

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